

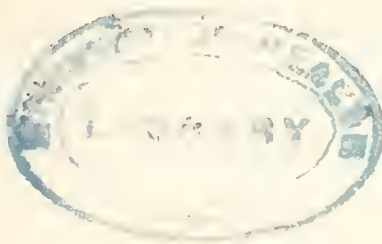
HAVERFORDWEST RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

- ANNUAL REPORT -

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1945.



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Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Public Health Services of the Rural District for the year 1945.

Statistics Area (in acres)	173,503
Population	20,260

Extracts from Vital Statistics :—

Live Births :

Birth Rate—16.2

Legitimate	298
Illegitimate	31
Still Births	15
Deaths	247

Death Rate—12.2

The Birth and Death Rates for 1000 of the Population for England and Wales was 16.1 and 11.2 respectively.

The Principal causes of Death were :—

Heart Disease	43
Cancer	36
Intra Cranial Vascular lesions	22
Nephritis	20
Bronchitis	11
Premature Births	4

WATER SUPPLIES.

Number of Parishes out of a total of 66 in which a piped supply of Water is provided, wholly or in part	36
Number of Premises connected to Water Mains	2040
Population supplied from Public Water Mains	8320

The District is supplied from the following main sources :—

South—Milford Haven Water.

North—Hotwells-Glanrhyd.

St Davids—St. Davids Gas and Water Company.

An Analysis of these Waters taken at frequent intervals, with remarks of the County Analyst is as follows :—

	Milford Haven Water.	Hotwells- Glanrhyd	St. Davids Water.
	Parts per 100,000.	Parts per 100,000.	Parts per 100,000.
Free Ammonia	0.002	Trace.	Nil.
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.002	0.008	0.004
Chlorine	1.20	1.80	5.15
Calculated as Common Salt	1.98	2.97	8.50
Total Solids	5.0	4.0	25.0
Nitrates	Nil.	Nil.	0.25
Nitrites	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

Oxygen consumed at 27°C.

In 15 minutes	0.068	0.013	Nil.
In 4 hours	0.089	0.049	Nil.

Additional Features :

Lime, as CaO.	1.01	0.23	
Total Alkalinity, as CaCO ₃ ...	3.5	1.6	
Total Hardness, as CaCO ₃ ...	3.5	1.6	10.0
Ph. Value	7.0	6.8	
Ph. S.	9.0	9.8	
Saturation Index (Langelier)	2.0	3.0	
Colour (Hazen Units)	5	5	

Bacteriological Condition :

No. of Organisms per cc develop- on Agar during 48 hrs. at 22°C.	12	3	149
No. of Organisms per cc develop- ed on Agar during 48 hrs at 22°C.	81	21	832
Coliform Organisms per 100cs.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.
Faecal Coli per 100cs.	Nil.	Nil.	Nil.

REMARKS.

Milford Haven Water..

It contained a considerable amount of Organic Matter, but its Bacteriological Condition was satisfactory.

I am of the opinion that it is suitable for all domestic and drinking purposes.

It has corrosive properties.

Hotwells-Glanrhyd Water.

It contained an appreciable amount of Organic Matter. This may be due to flood conditions.

Its Bacteriological condition was satisfactory, and I am of the opinion that it is fit for drinking purposes.

It has corrosive properties.

St. Davids Water.

The total number of Organisms present is high, but the absence of Coliform Organisms indicates that no pollution which could be regarded as dangerous is taking place.

I am of the opinion that it is suitable for drinking purposes.

The quality of the Water from the above sources has on the whole been satisfactory.

Number of Samples for Bacteriological examination...	75
Chemical	6

The quality can be considered satisfactory. There was however, a very heavy draw made by the Forces Personnel located in the area.

There are a number of Wells in the Rural Area, the majority show invariably the presence of Coliform and Faecal Organisms and must be classified as unsatisfactory.

HOUSING.

Total Number of Dwelling Houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health or Housing Acts 2096

Number of Defective Dwellings rendered in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority, or their Officers 15

Action under Housing, Public Health and Water Acts :—

Number of Preliminary Notices served	58
Number of Statutory Notices served	14
Number of Summonses issued for Non-compliance	3
Number of New Dwellings Completed (Agricultural)	8

The Ministry of Health authorised the building of a certain number of Houses as a preliminary in the first Post-war programme. Plans were passed for 72 houses. It is expected that many of these will be completed for habitation early in the coming year.

TUBERCULOSIS.

Cases notified :—

Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Deaths.
23	8	11.

In recording the number of Deaths it should be noted that more than half were notified in previous years.

These figures show a slight reduction in the number of recorded cases during the past five years. Medical Officers of the Welsh National Memorial Association see patients at Clinics held at Haverfordwest, St. Davids and Fishguard, or if more suitable at their homes

After-Care of Tuberculosis Patients.

Cases notified in the District are reported to the County Medical Officer. Reports on the environment conditions of the homes are further submitted by the Sanitary Inspectors, and where considered necessary extra relief is granted by a Special Committee assisted by the County Medical Officer and the Tuberculosis Physician.

VENEREAL DISEASES.

Clinics are held at Haverfordwest, Milford Haven, Pembroke Dock, and Fishguard, where free advice and treatment is given by Medical Practitioners appointed under the Ministry of Health Scheme, Regulation 33 B. Cases requiring special treatment are seen by the Specialist at the V.D. Clinic at the General Hospital, Swansea.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory at Carmarthen provides facilities for Pathological and Bacteriological Tests to be carried out.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

With the exception of Measles, there were few cases of the more important Infectious Diseases reported to have occurred during the year. The measles outbreak was of a mild form and there were no deaths recorded.

Diseases.	No. Notified.	Deaths.
Measles	111	Nil.
Diphtheria	3	Nil.
Whooping Cough	1	Nil.
Puerperal Pyrexia	0	Nil.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

Immunisation of Children against this disease has been carried out systematically and I have again to thank those Medical Practitioners who have given me their valuable assistance in attending to this work in and around their own districts.

Age Groups.	0-4 years.	5-15 years.	Total.
No. Immunised.	238	121	359

Diphtheria Immunisation up to 1945.

Age Groups.	0-4 years.	5-15 years.	Total.
No. Immunised.	1484	3155	4639

Estimated Child Population.	..... 0-4 years.	5-15 years.	Total.
	1536	3296	4832

Children on reaching the School Age should receive a further injection.

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS.

No. of Wholesale Producers Registered	.....	1250
No. of Retail Producers Registered	.....	57
No. of Inspections made of Dairy Farms	.....	303
No. of Milk Samples from Producer Retailers	.....	590

It is gratifying to report the satisfactory recordings of the samples of milk taken, also of the improvement found in the condition of the Cowsheds generally.

I regret I have again to refer to the supplying of non-designated milk by many Producer Retailers within the area, and repeat my warning that such milk may contain pathogenic Organism and should not be distributed to schools.

Untreated milk should only be drawn from herds that have passed the double intradermal tuberculin test, and every effort should be made to safeguard the supply against bacterial infection.

Laboratory Facilities.

An Area Laboratory has been set-up at Haverfordwest under the Milk Advisory Scheme of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries which deals with Bacteriological Tests on Milk or Water Supplies.

I wish to express my thanks to my Sanitary Inspectors for the most able assistance they have once again given me in all the work connected with my department.

I remain,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. HOWARD OWEN,

District Medical Officer.

